

**EXHIBIT A**

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Serial/Patent No.: 09/870/045 Filing/Issue Date: May 29, 2001  
Client: Sony Electronics Inc.  
Title: Method and Apparatus for Routing Program Data in a Program  
Viewing Unit

BSTZ File No.: 80398.P216 Atty/Secty Initials: MES/AEH/den  
Date Mailed: August 24, 2001 Docket Due Date: October 9, 2001

The following has been received in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office on the date stamped hereon:

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response (____ pgs.)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Express Mail No.: _____                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check No. <u>44849</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Brief (____ pgs.) (in triplicate)                              | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ Month(s) Extension of Time                            | Amt: <u>\$130.00</u>                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Utility (____ pgs., with cover and abstract)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement & PTO 1449 (____ pgs.)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Check No. _____                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Rule 1.53(b) Continuation (____ pgs.)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Issue Fee Transmittal                                       | Amt: _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Rule 1.53(b) Divisional (____ pgs.)                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Appeal  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Rule 1.53(b) CIP (____ pgs.)                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time                              |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Rule 1.53(d) CPA Transmittal (____ pgs.)                | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for _____  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Design (____ pgs.)                                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Postcard   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - PCT (____ pgs.)   | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney (____ pgs.)                               |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application - Provisional (____ pgs.)                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment (____ pgs.)                           |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment and Cover Sheet  | <input type="checkbox"/> Reply Brief (____ pgs.)                                     |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Mailing                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Notice of Missing Parts              |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration & POA ( <u>5</u> pgs.)                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Declaration for Indep. Inventor/Small Business |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disclosure Docs & Orig & Copy of Inventor's Signed Letter (____ pgs.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Transmittal Letter, in duplicate                            |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings: _____ # of sheets includes _____ figures                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal, in duplicate                               |  |

☒ Other: Copy of NOTICE to File Missing Parts... dated 8/09/01

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**BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP**

A PARTNERSHIP INCLUDING LAW CORPORATIONS

1279 OAKMEAD PARKWAY  
SUNNYVALE, CA 94086  
(408) 720-8598

COMERICABANK-CALIFORNIA  
SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA 94086

44849

**44849**

90-3752  
1211

August 23, 2001

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DOLLARS \$ 130.00

TO  
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OF

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Washington, DC 20231-0001

*Maria E. Soliman*

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

⑈044849⑈ ⑆121137522⑆ 1890⑈67366⑈6⑈

DO NOT CASH THIS CHECK UNLESS YOU CAN SEE THE WORDS "CHECK PROTECT" ON REVERSE SIDE

DETACH AND RETAIN THIS STATEMENT  
THE ATTACHED CHECK IS IN PAYMENT OF ITEMS DESCRIBED BELOW  
IF NOT CORRECT PLEASE NOTIFY US PROMPTLY. NO RECEIPT DESIRED.

Invoice: 08/23/2001 Amount: 130.00  
80398.P216 - Sony Electronics  
MES/AEH - den  
Missing Parts filing fee  
Title: Method and Apparatus for Routing Program  
Data in a Program Viewing Unit  
Inventor: Brant L. Candelore  
Appl. No. 09/870,045 Filed 5/29/01

**44849**



Attorney's Docket No.: 80398.P216

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Brant L. Candelore

Application No.: 09/870,045

Filed: May 29, 2001

For: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
ROUTING PROGRAM DATA IN A  
PROGRAM VIEWING UNIT

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS  
OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION  
(Filing Date Granted)**

Sir:

In response to the Notice to File Missing parts of Application (Filing Date  
Granted) mailed August 09, 2001, please find enclosed:

- (1) a duly executed Declaration and Power of Attorney with respect to the  
above-referenced patent application;
- (2) a check in the amount of \$130.00 in payment of the surcharge of 37  
C.F.R. § 1.16(e);
- (3) a copy of the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal  
Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Box Missing Parts,  
Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

on August 24, 2001

Dianne Neathery

(Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)

Dianne Neathery  
(Signature)

8-24-01  
(Date of Signature)

Response to Notice to File  
Missing Parts

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.  
A duplicate of this Response is enclosed for deposit account charging purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: August 23, 2001

Maria McCormack Sobrino

Maria McCormack Sobrino

Reg. No. 31,639

Customer No. 008791  
12400 Wilshire Blvd.  
Seventh Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1030  
(408) 720-8300

Attorney's Docket No.: 80398.P216

Patent

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below, next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

A Method and Apparatus for Routing Program Data in a Program Viewing Unit

the specification of which

XXX is attached hereto.  
was filed on May 29, 2001 as  
United States Application Number 09/870,045  
or PCT International Application Number \_\_\_\_\_  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_  
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claim(s), as amended by any amendment referred to above. I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application, that the same was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application, and that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months (for a utility patent application) or six months (for a design patent application) prior to this application.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d), of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

<u>Prior Foreign Application(s)</u>			<u>Priority Claimed</u>	
<u>(Number)</u>	<u>(Country)</u>	<u>(Day/Month/Year Filed)</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>(Number)</u>	<u>(Country)</u>	<u>(Day/Month/Year Filed)</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>(Number)</u>	<u>(Country)</u>	<u>(Day/Month/Year Filed)</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>

<u>Prior Foreign Application(s)</u>			<u>Priority Claimed</u>	
(Number)	(Country)	(Foreign Filing Date - MM/DD/YYYY)	Yes	No
(Number)	(Country)	(Foreign Filing Date - MM/DD/YYYY)	Yes	No
(Number)	(Country)	(Foreign Filing Date - MM/DD/YYYY)	Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefit under title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

<u>60/213,291</u>	<u>06/22/2000</u>
(Application Number)	(Filing Date – MM/DD/YYYY)
 (Application Number)	 (Filing Date – MM/DD/YYYY)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Number)	(Filing Date – MM/DD/YYYY)	(Status -- patented, pending, abandoned)
(Application Number)	(Filing Date – MM/DD/YYYY)	(Status -- patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint the persons listed on Appendix A hereto (which is incorporated by reference and a part of this document) as my respective patent attorneys and patent agents, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith.

Send correspondence to Maria McCormack Sobrino, **BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP**,  
(Name of Attorney or Agent) 12400 Wilshire Blvd., 7th Floor,  
Los Angeles, CA 90025  
and direct telephone calls to Maria McCormack Sobrino, (408) 720-8300.  
(Name of Attorney or Agent)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Sole/First Inventor Brant L. Candelore

Inventor's Signature Brant L. Candelore Date 6/15/01

Residence Escondido, California Citizenship USA  
(City, State) (Country)

Post Office Address 10124 Quail Glen Way  
Escondido, CA 92029-6502

Full Name of Second/Joint Inventor \_\_\_\_\_

Inventor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State) (Country)

Post Office Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Third/Joint Inventor \_\_\_\_\_

Inventor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State) (Country)

Post Office Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Fourth/Joint Inventor \_\_\_\_\_

Inventor's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship \_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State) (Country)

Post Office Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## APPENDIX A

William E. Alford, Reg. No. 37,764; Farzad E. Amini, Reg. No. 42,261; William Thomas Babbitt, Reg. No. 39,591; Carol F. Barry, Reg. No. 41,600; Jordan Michael Becker, Reg. No. 39,602; Lisa N. Benado, Reg. No. 39,995; Bradley J. Berezna, Reg. No. 33,474; Michael A. Bernadico, Reg. No. 35,934; Roger W. Blakely, Jr., Reg. No. 25,831; R. Alan Burnett, Reg. No. 46,149; Gregory D. Caldwell, Reg. No. 39,926; Thomas M. Coester, Reg. No. 39,637; Donna Jo Coningsby, Reg. No. 41,684; Florin Corie, Reg. No. 46,244; Mimi Diemmy Dao, Reg. No. 45,628; Dennis M. deGuzman, Reg. No. 41,702; Stephen M. De Klerk, Reg. No. 46,503; Michael Anthony DeSanctis, Reg. No. 39,957; Daniel M. De Vos, Reg. No. 37,813; Justin M. Dillon, Reg. No. 42,486; Sanjeet Dutta, Reg. No. 46,145; Matthew C. Fagan, Reg. No. 37,542; Tarek N. Fahmi, Reg. No. 41,402; Thomas S. Ferrill, Reg. No. 42,532; George Fountain, Reg. No. 37,374; James Y. Go, Reg. No. 40,621; James A. Henry, Reg. No. 41,064; Libby N. Ho, Reg. No. 46,774; Willmore F. Holbrow III, Reg. No. 41,845; Sheryl Sue Holloway, Reg. No. 37,850; George W. Hoover II, Reg. No. 32,992; Eric S. Hyman, Reg. No. 30,139; William W. Kidd, Reg. No. 31,772; Sang Hui Kim, Reg. No. 40,450; Walter T. Kim, Reg. No. 42,731; Eric T. King, Reg. No. 44,188; George Brian Leavell, Reg. No. 45,436; Kurt P. Leyendecker, Reg. No. 42,799; Gordon R. Lindeen III, Reg. No. 33,192; Jan Carol Little, Reg. No. 41,181; Robert G. Litts, Reg. No. 46,876; Julio Loza, Reg. No. P47,758; Joseph Lutz, Reg. No. 43,765; Michael J. Mallie, Reg. No. 36,591; Andre L. Marais, Reg. No. P048,095; Paul A. Mendonsa, Reg. No. 42,879; Clive D. Menezes, Reg. No. 45,493; Chun M. Ng, Reg. No. 36,878; Thien T. Nguyen, Reg. No. 43,835; Thinh V. Nguyen, Reg. No. 42,034; Robert B. O'Rourke, Reg. No. 46,972; Daniel E. Ovanezian, Reg. No. 41,236; Kenneth B. Paley, Reg. No. 38,989; Gregg A. Peacock, Reg. No. 45,001; Marina Portnova, Reg. No. 45,750; William F. Ryann, Reg. No. 44,313; James H. Salter, Reg. No. 35,668; William W. Schaal, Reg. No. 39,018; James C. Scheller, Reg. No. 31,195; Jeffrey S. Schubert, Reg. No. 43,098; George Simion, Reg. No. P47,089; Maria McCormack Sobrino, Reg. No. 31,639; Stanley W. Sokoloff, Reg. No. 25,128; Judith A. Szepesi, Reg. No. 39,393; Edwin H. Taylor, Reg. No. 25,129; John F. Travis, Reg. No. 43,203; Joseph A. Twarowski, Reg. No. 42,191; Mark C. Van Ness, Reg. No. 39,865; Tom Van Zandt, Reg. No. 43,219; Brent E. Vecchia, Reg. No. P48,011; Lester J. Vincent, Reg. No. 31,460; Archana B. Vittal, Reg. No. 45,182; Glenn E. Von Tersch, Reg. No. 41,364; John Patrick Ward, Reg. No. 40,216; Mark L. Watson, Reg. No. 46,322; Thomas C. Webster, Reg. No. 46,154; and Norman Zafman, Reg. No. 26,250; my patent attorneys, and Firasat Ali, Reg. No. 45,715; and Raul Martinez, Reg. No. 46,904, my patent agents, of BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP, with offices located at 12400 Wilshire Boulevard, 7th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90025, telephone (310) 207-3800, and James R. Thein, Reg. No. 31,710, my patent attorney with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith.

## APPENDIX B

### Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 Duty to Disclose Information Material to Patentability

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

(1) Prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

(2) The closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

(1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or

(2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

(i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

(ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) Each inventor named in the application;

(2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

(3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.

(e) In any continuation-in-part application, the duty under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/870,045	05/29/2001	Brant L. Candelore	80398.P216

008791  
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN  
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SEVENTH FLOOR  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025

CONFIRMATION NO. 6733

## FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC00000006404225\*

Date Mailed: 08/09/2001

## NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

*Filing Date Granted*

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The oath or declaration is unsigned.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$130 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 130.

---

*A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.*

AM  
Customer Service Center  
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE